



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 032004-005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Rainer K. Schmid)

Application No.: 09/827,933)

Filed: April 9, 2001)

For: ENERGY RETURN SOLE FOR
FOOTWEAR)

Group Art Unit: 3728

Confirmation No: 6673

Examiner: Mohandesi, Jila M.

4/a
K. Cobb
8/30/02

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 3, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 7, replace paragraph 33 with the following new paragraph:

The energy return system 20 is preferably disposed between the outsole 16 and the upper portion 12 and, in the illustrated embodiment of FIG. 1, extends approximately the entire length of the shoe. The energy return system 20 includes upper and lower sole plates 22, 24 preferably made of an elastic material which is defined here as a rigid, high tensile strength material which has a modulus of elasticity of at least 32×10^6 lb/in.². Preferably, the material will also have a light weight property. A suitable material for the plates 22, 24 is a material made of carbon graphite fibers. Graphite has the advantages that it has high tensile strength, a high modulus of elasticity, is light weight, and as discussed below may be easily processed. The graphite plates 22, 24 may comprise a single layer of graphite fibers but preferably includes a plurality of layers. The upper and lower plates 22, 24 are

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